A TERABLE

FIGHT

Between the

Gardners and Seamen;

Being an

ACCOUNT

Of a most Barbarous and Bloody

MURTHER

Committed on Friday *last by Eight Seamen on the Road between* Debtford *and* London; *on the* Body *of* Henry Spicer of Peckham *with an Account how the Seamen going from the* Naggs-head *near* Kent-street *without paying their Reckoning, the Gardeners, Endeavouring to stop them, a very Engagement happened between them where several were wounded on both sides, and* Henry Spicer *kill'd out right. As also how 8 of the 9 Seamen were Apprehended, and Committed to the* Marshals *by the worshipful Justice* Rich, *with other remarkable accidents.* 20. *Nov.* 1699.

ON *Friday* Morning last being the 17th. of this Instant *November* 1699. Nine Lusty Seamen (who, as we are inform'd) belong to an *East India* Merchant Man call'd the *Fame*, now Lying at Anchor near the Red House, came to the Sign of the *Naggs-head* in the Road between *Kent-street* and *Deptford* where they call'd for several Bottles of Liquor called Stout, till their Reckoning amounted to Nine Shillings at which time, the Landlady of the said House asking for her Money, but instead of paying it they gave her very abusive Language, and not only so but forced their way out of the House from her in a most rude and uncivil manner. insomuch that being affrighted by reason she lived in a lone House, and being a poor Woman and loath to loose Nine Shillings she call'd out to her Husband who was at work in Gardening not far from thence, whereupon by making a certain Noise (which it seems all the Gardners thereabouts understands upon any disturbance) so that in an instant, as it were near a Hundred Gardners incompass'd the Seamen on every side; but being flush'd with strong Liquor and being furnish'd with great *Oken Clubes*, they lay'd on all they met without fear or witt, which the Gardners observing, took them for no less than High-way Men, so that Number of Gardners and other Countrey Men still encreasing several endevovred to make their Escape by striving to Leap the Ditches, were taken by their falling therein, and others by the Gardners great Doggs who bitt and hurt some of them.

However four or five being swifter of Foot than the other, got almost as far as the sign of the *Black Jack* without opposition, at which place meting with one *Henry Spicer* of *Peckham*, who was brining a Load of Clay to the Brewers in *London* (according to his Daily Custom) and seeing that they were persued attempted to stop them; which prov'd Fatal to him for with their Clubs, repeating their heavy Stroaks so often on his Head that immeadiatly he fell down, where they left him wallowing in his Blood, and leap'd the Ditches to make away, but the Gardners having better knowledge of those parts than they, fetch'd a Compass about and mett them contrary to their Expectations, where being over powered with numbers, they were at last forced to submit, after having given and received several Wounds, and 8 of them were Seized and taken, but the 9th made his Escape where upon the were Carried before the Worshipful Justice *Rich*, who committed them to the *Marshals*; during which time, *Henry Spicer* whom they had VVounded, was carryed to Dr. *Harwoods* at the *Lock* in *Kent-street*, where his VVounds was Dress'd but all in vain, for his very Brains was beaten out, besides other Cruel Bruses on several parts of his Body, so that, Notwithstanding all the Endeavour that could be used, he Dyed the same Evening of the said VVounds about 5 of the Clock.

His Death is much Lamented by his Neighbours at *Peckham*, not only because he was a very Honest and Peaceable Man, but the more in regard he has left a VVife with Four or Five small Children.

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